

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the application as follows:

Claims 1-33 (CANCELLED)

Claim 34. (WITHDRAWN) A method for developing a therapeutic drug in a model animal system comprising the steps of:

- a) infecting a lower primate with a human viral pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;
- b) administering a potential therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and
- c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on disease manifestations caused by said human viral pathogen.

Claim 35. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 34 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 36. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 34 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 37. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 34 wherein said therapeutic drug comprises an antigen or set of antigens derived from said human viral pathogen.

Claim 38. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 34 wherein cells, tissues or organs derived from said lower primate are infected in vitro.

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Claim 39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure in a model animal system comprising the steps of:

- a) infecting a lower primate Tupaia with a human viral pathogen, wherein said pathogen is comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;
- b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said Tupaia lower primate; and
- c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on disease manifestations caused by said human viral pathogen.

Claim 40. (CANCELLED)

Claim 41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 39 wherein said human retrovirus is comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 42. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 39 wherein cells, tissues or organs derived from said lower primate are infected in vitro.

Claim 43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 39 wherein said therapeutic procedure comprises oral tolerization.

Claim 44. (WITHDRAWN) A composition comprising a therapeutic drug that has been shown to be effective in alleviating clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human viral pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus by:

- a) infecting a lower primate with said human pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;
- b) administering said therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and
- c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on said clinical manifestations.

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Claim 45. (WITHDRAWN) The composition of claim 44 wherein said clinical manifestations are secondary manifestations of said infection.

Claim 46. (WITHDRAWN - PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition method of claim 44 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 47. (WITHDRAWN - PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition method of claim 44 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 48. (WITHDRAWN – PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition method of claim 44 wherein cells, tissues or organs derived from said lower primate are infected in vitro.

Claim 49. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure which alleviates clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human viral pathogen, comprising wherein said pathogen is HCV or a human retrovirus, comprising the steps of:

- a) infecting Tupaia a lower primate with a human viral pathogen, wherein said pathogen is comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;
- b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said Tupaia lower primate; and
- c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on clinical manifestations caused by said human viral pathogen.

Claim 50. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 49 wherein said therapeutic procedure comprises oral tolerization.

Claim 51. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 49 wherein said clinical manifestations are secondary disease manifestations of said infection.

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Claim 52. (WITHDRAWN) A method for developing a therapeutic drug in a model animal system comprising the steps of:

- a) infecting a lower primate with a human pathogen;
- b) administering a potential therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and
- c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on secondary disease manifestations caused by said human pathogen.

Claim 53. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 52 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 54. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 52 wherein said human pathogen comprises a human retrovirus.

Claim 55. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 54 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 56. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 52 wherein said human pathogen comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 57. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 52 wherein said therapeutic drug is an antigen or set of antigens derived from said human pathogen.

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Claim 58. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure in a model animal system comprising the steps of:

- a) infecting Tupaia a lower primate with a human viral pathogen;
- b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said Tupaia lower primate; and
- c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on secondary disease manifestations caused by said human viral pathogen.

Claim 59. (CANCELLED)

Claim 60. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 58 wherein said human viral pathogen is comprises a human retrovirus.

Claim 61. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 58 wherein said human retrovirus is comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 62. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 58 wherein said human viral pathogen is comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 63. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 58 wherein said therapeutic procedure comprises oral tolerization.

Claim 64. (WITHDRAWN) A composition comprising a therapeutic drug that has been shown to be effective in alleviating secondary clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human pathogen by:

- a) infecting a lower primate with said human pathogen;
- b) administering said therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and

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c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on said secondary clinical manifestations.

Claim 65. (WITHDRAWN – PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The composition method of claim 64 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 66. (WITHDRAWN) The composition of claim 64 wherein said human pathogen comprises a human retrovirus.

Claim 67. (WITHDRAWN) The composition of claim 66 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 68. (WITHDRAWN) The composition of claim 64 wherein said human pathogen comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 69. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure which alleviates secondary clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human viral pathogen comprising the steps of:

- a) infecting Tupaia a-lower primate with a human viral pathogen;
- b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said Tupaia lower primate; and
- c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on clinical manifestations caused by said human viral pathogen.

Claim 70. (CANCELLED)

Claim 71. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 69 70 wherein said human viral pathogen is comprises a human retrovirus.

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Claim 72. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 71 wherein said human retrovirus  
is comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 73. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 69 wherein said human viral  
pathogen is comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 74. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 69 wherein said therapeutic  
procedure comprises oral tolerization.

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